WHEREAS; Wisconsin's school food service professionals are heroes and leaders who work diligently to nourish our state's youth, and have consistently gone the extra mile to maintain food access for kids across our state during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's farmers play an essential role in the prosperity of our rural communities, providing local fruits, vegetables, dairy products, meats, and grains to folks in every corner of our state; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's Farm to School program supports student access to nutritious, local foods, as well as educational opportunities – through school meals and snacks, school gardens, cooking lessons, and farm field trips – and is committed to advancing racial and social equity by addressing disparities in access to program benefits; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin Farm to School strengthens the connection between communities and local food producers by enriching food purchasing and education practices at schools, early education sites, and other institutions; and

WHEREAS; every school year, Wisconsin schools serve more than 114 million meals and invest \$9.2 million in local foods, creating an important and reliable market for local farm products and economic opportunities for producers and communities throughout our state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins kids and families throughout our state in celebrating the Wisconsin Farm to School Program – and the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch initiative – and in expressing appreciation for our local farm and school nutrition heroes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 2020 as

## WISCONSIN FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

	reunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State Capitol in the City of Madison this 1st day of October
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary o	of State